

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR IC UK

SUBJECT: FISHERIES DISPUTE: PRIMIN ANNOUNCES TERMS OF PROPOSED
UK AGREEMENT

1. PRIMIN JOHANNESSON TODAY ANNOUNCED DETAILS OF PROPOSED INTERIM
AGREEMENT WITH UK ON FISHERIES DISPUTE. MOST IMPORTANT TERMS AS HE
OUTLINED THEM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A) AGREEMENT TO RUN TWO YEARS.

B) ALL FACTORY VESSELS AND 15 OF LARGE BRITISH TRAWLERS AND
15 SMALL ONES TO BE EXCLUDED FROM FISHING GROUNDS
(THUS TOTAL BRITISH TRAWLERS TO BE REDUCED FROM ABOUT 195
IN 1973 TO 140 IN 1974.)

C) UK WILL SUBMIT LIST OF 140 WHICH WILL BE ALLOWED TO FISH.

D) SHOULD GOI AUTHORITIES SUSPECT VIOLATION OF FISHERIES
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RULES, THEY WILL BOARD UK VESSEL. IF THEIR SUSPICIONS

APPEAR JUSTIFIED, UK PATROL VESSEL WILL BE CALLED TO
VERIFY. IF VIOLATION VERIFIED, VESSEL WILL BE EXCLUDED
FROM FISHING GROUNDS.

E) FISHING GROUNDS WILL BE DIVIDED INTO SIX AREAS OF WHICH
FIVE WILL BE OPEN AT ANY ONE TIME.

2. PRIMIN SAID RESULT SHOULD BE REDUCTION IN BRITISH CATCH FROM
ABOUT 180,000 TONS IN 1973 TO ABOUT 130,000 TONS IN 1974
ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT BE CONSIDERABLY LESS DEPENDING ON FISH AVAILABLE.

3. WHEN ASKED WHETHER PROGRESSIVE PARTY ACCEPT AGREEMENT, PRIMIN
SAID HIS PARTY HAS NOT YET MET TO DISCUSS THIS, BUT HE PERSONALLY
HOPES AGREEMENT WILL BE APPROVED. HE SAID ALL POLITICAL PARTIES
HAD NOT YET TAKEN STAND ON AGREEMENT AND HE THOUGHT THEY SHOULD
HAVE TIME FOR FULL CONSIDERATION. HOWEVER, HE HOPED THERE WOULD
BE AGREEMENT AND THAT SIGNATURE COULD TAKE PLACE IN NEAR FUTURE.
REPORTERS TRIED TO DRAW HIM OUT ON EFFECT ON GOVT OF PEOPLE'S
ALLIANCE DECISION TO OPPOSE AGREEMENT, BUT HE SAID CABINET STAND
COULD ONLY BE TAKEN WHEN ALL PARTIES IN CABINET HAD COMPLETED
CONSIDERATION AND WERE READY FOR DISCUSSION. IRVING

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